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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/347,689	07/02/1999	GEORGE TYSON TUTTLE	SILA-045	4193

7590 10/27/2003

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EXAMINER

SINGH, RAMNANDAN P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2644

DATE MAILED: 10/27/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/347,689

Applicant(s)

TUTTLE ET AL.

Examiner

Dr. Ramnandan Singh

Art Unit

2644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 and 29-34 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 18-23, 25-28 and 35-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 24 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). 14.
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____. 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed on 28 August 2003 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Specification

2. In view of the applicant's response, the objection to the specification is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. In view of the applicant's response, the claim rejections under 35 USC § 112 are withdrawn.

Status of Claims

4. Claims 1, 10, 15, 18, 19, 24 and 35 are amended.
Claims 1-37 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6 Claims 18-23, 25-28, 35-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Snyder [US 5,343,514].

Regarding Claim 18, Snyder teaches a hookswitch transition circuit a telephone line powered system that is capable of being connected to phone lines [col. 10, lines 22-38], as shown in Figs. 4A and 4B, the hookswitch transition circuit comprising:

a hookswitch control node 38 carrying a hookswitch control signal; an AC bypass 39; a control switch 40; and a hookswitch control circuit 44, wherein when the telephone 10 goes "off-hook", it causes current to flow through a loop detector and a slope control circuit 38, and the switch 40, as indicated in Figs. 6 and 7, is operated as a first hook switch control for the system [col. 4, lines 1-11; col. 6, line 61 to col. 7, line 19; col. 4, lines 38-68; col. 4, line 62-8].

Claims 25, 35 are essentially similar to Claim 18 and are rejected for the reasons stated above .

Regarding Claims 19-21, 26-27, 36-37, see Figs. 6 and 7.

Regarding Claims 22-23, 28, Snyder teaches an off-current level and an on-hook current level wherein the on-hook current level is much lower than the off-hook current level, which is well known in the art [col. 3, line 62 to col. 4, lines 22-44; Figs. 4A and 4B].

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 1-17 and 29-34 are allowable.

Independent Claims 1, 10 and 29 are allowable because they teach a hookswitch transition circuit for a communication system having an isolation barrier or a DAA circuit. Claims 2-9, 11-17, 30-34 are allowable because they are dependent claims from independent Claims 1, 10 and 29.

9. Claim 24 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 24 will be allowable because it teaches a switch coupled to a hookswitch transition control node within a phone line side DAA circuit.

Conclusion


10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dr. Ramnandan Singh whose telephone number is (703)308-6270. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F(8:00-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Forester Isen can be reached on (703)-305-4386. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Art Unit: 2644

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)306-0377.

Dr. Ramnandan Singh
Examiner
Art Unit 2644



FORESTER W. ISEN
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